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REPORT OF COMMITTEE F ON ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL CHAPTERS OR GROUPS

Since the Constitution of the Association does not recognize local organizations, the Executive Committee determined in March that a report on the advisability of such recognition could best be made by a practical test. Local organizations had already been started or projected in certain institutions, and the President and Secretary of the Association thereupon addressed the senior members in each institution on the subject.* As a result, organizations were formed in forty-one (41) institutions, besides two regional associations, Boston and New York, including nine (9) additional institutions, making fifty (50) in all.

In October the President requested reports from the institutions. The number of reports received to date is forty-three (43). These show that from one to six meetings have been held. Several additional replies indicate that the number of local members is insufficient for a formal organization.

Practically all organizations took up the matter of securing new members. The next subject generally considered was the Pension and Insurance Plan of the Carnegie Foundation. The report on Academic Freedom was read and discussed in others. Further subjects were, national university, faculty organization and research. Matters of local interest were discussed by several, particularly a new form of faculty organization, participation of the faculty in budget-making, faculty representation in appointments to college positions, joint committee of faculty and trustees, appointments and promotions.

As to local opinion regarding the recognition of local organizations, only one report is definitely opposed, the chairman writing that the chapter system is "beneath the dignity of the profession." The majority do not express opinion, but others use such terms as "outlook very encouraging,"

*See letter published in the April BULLETIN (p. 18).

"enthusiastic meeting," "may be made of great value to the institution and the profession at large," "will contribute materially to the influence of the national organization," "chapter idea excellent." Yet in nearly all cases, these reports hold that the success of the locals will depend on the officers, and especially the chairmen of the committees, of the parent organization. The latter must actually make use of the locals, must submit questions for discussion, and so on. The chapter (Dartmouth) which held six meetings has adopted the plan of "supper meetings," and has invited the administrative officers on certain occasions.

Some reports point out that other local organizations take care of the subject submitted, and in such cases, duplication is avoided by submitting a report of another organization. This has occurred especially in the matter of Pensions and Insurance. In the region of New York and Boston the regional organization is preferred to a separate organization in each institution.

A few reports hold that local chapters should consider only matters belonging to the general association—others that the key to success will turn on the opportunity to take up local matters.

It is evident from these reports that local chapters should be permitted and recognized, but that their form and scope should be left to local opinion. They may be useful in matters of passing upon new members, means of communication with officers and chairmen of committees of the national organization, discussion of measures before the national organization, and discussion of specific questions when occasion arises.

Although your Committee on Local Chapters (consisting of the chairmen or representatives of chapters) has not formally voted on a resolution to be submitted to the Annual Meeting, yet the reports received warrant the recommendation of substantially the following amendment to the Constitution:

Local chapters may be organized in institutions, or by regional groups of institutions, by the members of this Asso-

ciation for such purposes as they may determine, not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the Association.

So recommended.

JOHN R. COMMONS,
Chairman.

Local organizations are reported as follows:

Amherst, B. K. Emerson, Chairman, H. C. Lancaster, Secretary; *Boston Group* (*Clark, Harvard, Mass. Inst. Tech., Simmons, Tufts, Wellesley*), C. H. Moore (Harvard), Chairman, C. W. Doten (M. I. T.), Secretary; *Bryn Mawr*, G. A. Barton, Chairman, W. R. Smith, Secretary; *California*, C. L. Cory, Chairman, G. R. Noyes, Secretary; *Chicago*, E. H. Moore, Chairman, H. W. Prescott, Secretary; *Cincinnati*, L. T. More, Chairman; *College of the City of New York*, H. A. Overstreet, Chairman; *Colorado College*, Florian Cajori, Chairman; *University of Colorado*, M. F. Libby, Chairman, C. C. Ayer, Secretary; *Cornell*, E. L. Nichols, Chairman; *Dartmouth*, H. D. Foster, Chairman, R. W. Husband, Secretary; *Indiana*, J. A. Woodburn, Chairman, G. D. Morris, Secretary; *Iowa*, C. B. Wilson, Chairman; *Johns Hopkins*, G. E. Barnett, Chairman, J. M. Vincent, Secretary; *Kansas*, E. H. Hollands, Chairman, S. L. Whitcomb, Secretary; *Lafayette*, F. B. Peck, Chairman; *Lehigh*, R. W. Blake, Chairman; *Leland Stanford, Jr.*, C. A. Huston, Chairman; *Michigan*, R. M. Wenley, Chairman, H. P. Thieme, Secretary; *Minnesota*, J. H. Gray, Chairman, G. N. Bauer, Secretary; *Mount Holyoke*, Ellen B. Talbot, Chairman; *Nebraska*, H. B. Alexander, Chairman, Louise Pound, Secretary; *New York Group* (*Columbia, College of the City of New York, Hunter College, Princeton*), Harold Jacoby (Columbia), Chairman, H. A. Overstreet (City College), Secretary; *North Carolina*, George Howe, Chairman; *North Dakota*, A. J. Becker, Chairman, H. E. Simpson, Secretary; *Northwestern*, Henry Crew, Chairman; *Ohio*, W. T. Magruder,

Chairman, H. C. Hockett, Secretary; *Purdue*, J. C. Arthur, Chairman; *Reed College*, H. B. Torrey, Chairman; *Smith*, H. H. Wilder, Chairman; *Syracuse*, C. W. Hargitt, Chairman, H. A. Eaton, Secretary; *Texas*, E. W. Fay, Chairman, E. C. Barker, Secretary; *Tulane*, Irving Hardesty, Chairman, E. A. Bechtel, Secretary; *Vassar*, E. D. Fite, Chairman, Cora J. Beckwith, Secretary; *Virginia*, I. F. Lewis, Chairman, H. T. Marshall, Secretary; *Washington (St. Louis)*, Otto Heller, Chairman; *University of Washington*, E. S. Meaney, Chairman; *Wellesley*, Katharine L. Bates, Chairman, Laura E. Lockwood, Secretary; *Western Reserve*, S. B. Platner, Chairman, H. A. Aikins, Secretary; *Williams*, W. E. McElfresh, Chairman; *Wisconsin*, C. E. Mendenhall, Chairman; *Yale*, R. G. Harrison, Chairman.